

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 6, 10 – 13, and 15 – 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,057,677 (“Bertagna”) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,139,034 (“Williams”); Claims 7 – 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Bertagna and Williams further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,367,452; and Claim 14 stands rejected over Bertagna and Williams further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,069.

The rejections are respectfully traversed. One aspect of the requirement for establishing a *prima facie* case under §103(a) is that the cited references “must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.” MPEP 2143. It is respectfully noted that the specific limitations related to the mechanical structure of the security drawer assembly are not taught or suggested by the cited art. In particular, independent Claim 1 includes the following limitations, and independent Claim 6 includes similar limitations:

- b) a security drawer assembly removably mounted in the service cart, wherein the security drawer assembly includes:
 - a body having a sleeve with an open end and a passage open at said end;
 - a body-mounting mechanism connected with said body for removably mounting the body within the service cart; and
 - a security drawer movably mounted in the sleeve, the security drawer having locked and unlocked positions selectively providing access thereto and such that the body cannot be removed from the service cart when the security drawer is in the locked position;

Neither Bertagna nor Williams teaches or suggests a security drawer assembly having the specifically recited mechanical limitations. The Office Action appears to focus on Williams for these limitations, noting that “Williams discloses a security drawer (see Figure 5) removably mounted and having locked an[d] unlocked positions in a point-of-sale cart” (Office Action, p. 5). But Williams does not disclose a security drawer *assembly* that includes a body having a sleeve with a security drawer movably mounted in the sleeve, with the security drawer having locked and unlocked positions such that the body cannot be removed when the security drawer is in the locked position. Williams discloses a completely different structure.

The cart shown in Fig. 5 of Williams shows multiple drawers (not labeled) that are slidably received within the cart. The cart has front and rear doors 54, which may be locked by vertically slidable latches 14. Each such latch has a slidable body member 16 contained within shaped guides 20 and connected to a top handle 18 that acts as a hasp. The handle 18 contains a hole 26 for accepting a padlock to lock the door (Williams, Col. 4, ll. 3 – 21). Thus, Williams does not disclose the recited mechanical structure of the security drawer assembly. For example, because the drawers in Williams are slidably received directly into the cart, Williams does not disclose a security drawer movably mounted in a sleeve comprised by a body that is itself removably mounted within the service cart. Also, for example, the drawers in Williams do not have “locked and unlocked positions ... such that the body cannot be removed from the service cart when the security drawer is in the locked position.” The positions of the drawers in Williams are entirely unrelated to whether the cart is locked or unlocked since the cart is locked by a door mechanism.

For these reasons, Claims 1 and 6 are believed to be patentable over the cited art. The remaining claims are believed to be patentable by virtue of their dependence from patentable claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,


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